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MISSISSIPPI

# Library News

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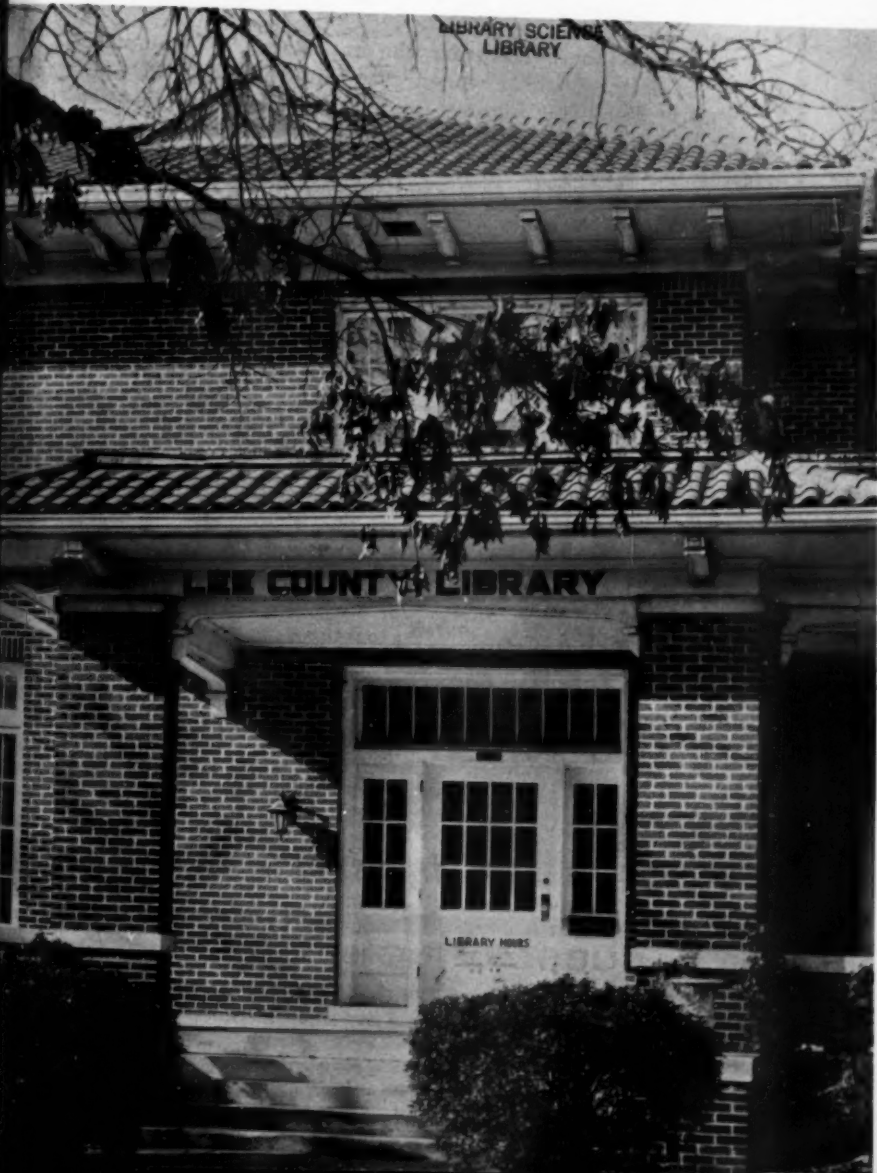
MARCH, 1961

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## Mississippi Library News

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Vol. 25

March

No. 1

Issued Quarterly By  
**MISSISSIPPI  
LIBRARY COMMISSION**  
and  
**MISSISSIPPI  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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### THE COVER

One of our own libraries, Mississippi's Tupelo Public Library, received national acclaim recently when it was selected as one of the eleven libraries in the nation to receive the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award for 1961. For more details about this outstanding library, see Lura Currier's article on Page 16.

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### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
It's News to Me .....	3
National Library Week .....	5
Mississippi Library Commission .....	13
The Professional Corner .....	18
Mississippi Library Association .....	19
Libraries Promote Civil War Centennial .....	23
Public Libraries Section .....	25
Trustees' Section .....	31
College Libraries Section .....	33
Special Libraries Section .....	37
School Libraries Section .....	39

Your subscription to Mississippi Library News is membership in the  
Mississippi Library Association.

# It's News To Me—

**Mrs. Mary Louise McAdams**, a graduate of George Peabody College for Teachers, joined the staff of Mississippi Southern College's Joe Cook Memorial Library on September first as cataloger.

**Forrest C. Palmer**, librarian at MSU, has been appointed Mississippi's representative on the Southeastern Library Development Council. He addressed Alpha Beta Alpha, Beta Chapter, at MSCW on February ninth.

**Mrs. Gertrude Rowzee**, who retired as librarian of Hinds Junior College, now works part-time in the Belhaven Library, Jackson.

**Mrs. Regina Goodwin**, who joined the staff of the Hinds Junior College library last fall, is on leave studying for her master's degree at LSU. Miss Alfrieda Sorrolls is substituting during her absence.

**Mrs. Norma Faye Wall**, formerly of the University of Mississippi staff, is working part-time as a cataloger at Hinds Junior College.

All Saints' Episcopal Junior College at Vicksburg admitted male students for the first time the second semester this year.

Sunflower Junior College at Moorhead will be known henceforth as Mississippi Delta Junior College, thus effecting a change in the name of the library.

**Hope Reid** of Hammond, La., became circulation librarian at Millsaps-Wilson Library in February. A graduate of Sophie Newcomb College, she also holds a B. S. degree in library science from L. S. U. Her experience includes work at the State Library Commission where she was in the Technical Processes Division until last summer.

The Guyton Library staff at Blue Mountain College has begun publication of "Guyton Library Notes" as an aid to patrons.

Work has begun on the ultra-modern "Dream Library" at Hinds Junior College, whose initial unit will cost \$250,000.

**Anna Roberts**, librarian at MSC, should have been included among those present at the SELA convention, who were listed in the last issue. Were there others?

**Mrs. Marie Kennedy**, acting director, Capital Area Regional Library, has been busy with speaking engagements at P. T. A. meetings in the Tri-County area.

**Mrs. Juanita Collins**, Raymond branch librarian for Capital Area Regional Library, has enrolled in Mississippi College for a course in Books and Related Materials for Young People as part of the library's in-service training program.

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*"for a richer, fuller life—read"*

## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK, 1961

By **MARY LOVE**  
National Library Week  
Executive Director



Plans are now being formulated in cities throughout Mississippi for the celebration of National Library Week, April 16-22.

National Library Week, spearheaded in Mississippi by a group of 30 prominent civic and church leaders, has as its purpose promoting reading for a richer, fuller life.

Judge William N. Ethridge, associate justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court, is chairman of library week committee.

Radio and television spot announcements and newspaper mats supporting National Library Week are being sent from the Library Commission headquarters to the radio and television stations and newspapers in your area. When your local celebration of National Library Week has been planned, call on your newspaper editor, the managers of your local radio and/or television stations and tell them about NLW activities. Invite these influential men to take part in the week's celebration and ask their cooperation in telling the story of what you are

doing locally to support National Library Week.

This year the Mississippi Library Week committee decided to use newspaper publicity for articles by outstanding Mississippians and educators to tell the different phases of library development in the state. Articles are being sent to all Mississippi newspapers by Mrs. Lura Currier, director of the Mississippi Library Commission, and Mrs. Ada McCaa Sumrall, supervisor of libraries, State Department of Education, as well as by such outstanding Mississippians as Judge Ethridge, Dr. Joe Odle, editor of the **Baptist Record**, and Eudora Welty, award winning novelist. One article per week will appear prior to National Library Week in newspapers throughout the state.

So that you, as librarians, will be thoroughly familiar with the articles, they are being included in this issue of National Library News.

I hope will all exert every effort to make National Library Week, 1961, the most beneficial yet held in Mississippi.

## Every Week Is Library Week In Mississippi

By LURA G. CURRIER  
Director, Miss. Library Commission

While nationwide attention is being focused on libraries during National Library Week, every week is library week in Mississippi and has been for the past decade, during which the number of towns with public library facilities increased from 97 to 199 and counties operating bookmobile service went from 7 to 44.

During this period of unprecedented library growth, city and county officials have considered books and reading important enough to increase local funds for all libraries for all purposes from \$600,000 in 1950 to slightly over \$2,000,000 in 1960.

Statistics generally make for very dull reading. But they become exciting when one considers the significance involved in the astounding increase of books available to Mississippi readers in public libraries from 287,000 ten years ago to a million and a quarter today!

Why this surge of interest in making books available?

Several factors have combined to cause Mississippi's civic leaders to look at their libraries objectively, find them wanting (or completely absent) and set out to do something about them.

Increased awareness of education as a lifelong process — not restricted to school years — has brought communities to consider their libraries as the "people's university."

A sound master plan for statewide library development drawn up in 1948 gives library trustees a good blueprint while preserving local authority and providing for unlimited individual community differences.

A state agency — the Mississippi Li-



brary Commission — is charged by law with the responsibility for giving guidance to the citizens of Mississippi who wish to establish new libraries or improve the ones they have. This commission is devoted to the idea that advice (which it is supposed to give) is neither welcome nor worth much unless it is accompanied by hard work and cold cash. The commission staff has always been willing to work hard, but it remained for the Federal Library Services Act of 1956 to supply the much-needed cold cash.

There is still a long, long way to go. Thirty-eight of our 82 counties still have no bookmobile service. Sixty-seven incorporated towns have no public libraries of any kind, and eight counties have not a single book for public distribution within their borders. But these situations are changing so rapidly that these gloomy statistics will soon, we hope, be happily out of date.

Mississippi is on the march; progress is evident everywhere. Far-seeing elected officials, devoted trustees and energetic librarians are hard at work to make sure that the people have knowledge and information to keep pace with that progress.

# Child's Reading Habits Are Formed Early

By MRS. ADA McCAA SUMRALL  
Supervisor of Libraries  
State Department of Education

A look at the school library program in Mississippi reveals some alarming facts. In 1959-60 the state spent \$191.48 per child on education yet only \$1.13 per child was used for library books and other materials such as film, film strips, recordings, maps and charts. In some school districts as little as 14c average per child per year was spent on library books. Since the average cost of a library book for the high school is four dollars, think of 28 years being required to buy one book!

Though many beautiful new buildings have been constructed and many areas of the school programs have been greatly strengthened, only our high schools have library services — except for a few elementary schools which are beginning to establish libraries.

A child's reading habits are formed by the time he reaches the sixth grade. Unless he has new, vital, pleasurable experiences with books each day and forms the habit of regular reading and visiting a library, he will not become a life-long reader and user of libraries.

Everything now published in the field of science will have changed in 10 years. The political world changes daily; travel, social practices, modes of life are constantly changing. Last year 1,500 new books for children were published. How many of these are available to Mississippi's 566,421 school children?

The greatest venture a child can take is that of going from an unknown to a known fact. The very basis for thinking is reading. All ideas grow from facts absorbed, assorted and assembled.

A school library is of equal importance to all schools — elementary and



secondary, large and small, rural and urban, public, independent, and parochial. The library is the hub of a dynamic program throughout the school. It cuts across all grade levels, all reading abilities, all subject fields and stimulates every child's interests and satisfies his desires to find out. A professionally-trained librarian is essential to make the school library program come alive.

One third grader wanted a book on "cowboys," and his request was chanted over and over again. When his librarian apologized for being unable to find a single title for him, he replied, "Well, you did the best you could!" Are children going to say to us: "You did the best you could" when communities are failing to provide school library service to their children?

A school library program stimulates and satisfies the lively curiosities of boys and girls. It undergirds flexible and creative teaching. It lays a firm foundation for the reading habit and creates dependence upon a library

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

when the student enters college or special fields of work, when he takes his place as an adult citizen in his community. The public library supplements the school, the college, and the special library and in addition serves those citizens not connected with any of these institutions. Together we build all types of library programs not connected with any of these institutions. Together we build all types of library programs so that all citizens may live and grow in the joy of books.

During National Library Week April 16-22, look at your own school library in the light of these goals.

#### NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

##### Magazine Participation Mounts — To

date, more than 45 publications plan to feature a variety of NLW themes, mainly in April issues. Special articles and editorials or regular features tied in with NLW are already scheduled or planned in such general circulation and special interest magazines as The American Home, The American Legion, Atlantic Monthly, Boys' Life, Calling All Girls, Christian Advocate, Christianity Today, The Clubwoman, Coronet, Findings, Family Circle, Glamour, Good Housekeeping, Grade Teacher, The Instructor, Harper's Bazaar, Highlights For Children, House & Garden, Ingenue, International Journal of Religious Education, Life, Look, National Parent-Teacher, NEA Journal, Parents', Popular Gardening, Reader's Digest, Redbook, Recreation Management, Seventeen, Saturday Evening Post, Scouting, Scholastic Roto, Sunset, This Week and Vogue. McCalls will insert NLW bookmarks in two million of its April newsstand copies. Column mentions, fillers or drop-in advertising will be highlighted in Better Homes & Gardens, The Camp Fire Girl, Catholic Digest, Christian Herald, Cosmopolitan, Girl Scout Leader, Living For Young Homemakers, Our Sunday Visitor and Together.

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## Church Leaders Realize Need For Reading

By DR. JOE T. ODLE  
Editor, Baptist Record

The churches and religious leaders of our state are vitally interested in libraries. The library stands as one of the institutions which is working continually to build a better community. It provides a center of cultural, intellectual and recreational interest, and ministers with the home, the church and the school in building character and lifting community standards.

Churches are also deeply concerned about the type of literature that is being read today. They realize that good literature must be made available to offset the cheap, unwholesome and often degrading material now available to almost any reader by simply visiting a news-stand or book-rack.

Many churches have developed their own libraries, and a few churches in Mississippi have thousands of volumes available to their members and to the public in general. This, however, is not an effort to supplant the work of the public library or the school library, but supplements it, and makes provision of many books in the religious field, where the other libraries may have few in that field. The church libraries, however, often provide books in many other fields besides religion. It is expected that some of these church libraries will participate in the observance of library week.

Churches can support National Library Week in a number of ways. Attention can be called to the service of the public library, and the membership can be urged to visit the library and use its facilities. The church can, through classes and organizations, as well as from the pulpit, encourage good reading and suggest that boys and girls and adults use the libraries and learn to know the numerous services available through the library.

Pastors and other church leaders can visit the libraries, confer with the librarians and library committees, and discuss with them the ways the churches can support the libraries and what the library has to offer the church program.

In communities with no public libraries, the church leaders might well spearhead a drive to provide a library, offer assistance to the school authorities in strengthening school libraries, and establish or enlarge the church library and make it available to the whole community.

It is felt by those interested in library work, that interest on the part of the churches can strengthen the whole library program.

Leaders of all denominations will be invited to encourage their constituent churches to participate in the program this year.

## STATE'S INSTITUTIONS ARE WITHOUT BOOKS

By W. N. Ethridge, Jr.  
Associate Justice, Mississippi  
State Supreme Court

The State of Mississippi maintains large hospital, mental, and penal institutions. Libraries in these institutions could perform an important and significant rehabilitation function.

Yet it is astonishing to note that there is an almost complete lack of organized library facilities in our state institutions.

This is not the fault of any person or group. It is simply because of more important physical and financial demands. All of these institutions have some books. But an organized library means one staffed by a trained librarian, with adequate space, physical facilities and books. Of course the library books for an institution should be selected with a primary concern for the growth and rehabilitation of those confined therein.

The Columbia and Oakley training schools (for delinquent white and Negro boys and girls, respectively) offer an opportunity to make available to these youngsters good books and intellectual interests which would help rehabilitate them into good citizens.

Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman has around 2,000 men and women incarcerated for various criminal offenses. Most of them will be released ultimately and sent back into society. The rehabilitation program at Parchman could be substantially improved by an organized, professional library program.

Mississippi State Sanatorium cares for people with tuberculosis. Adequate library facilities for these fellow citizens during their convalescence would provide valuable recreational and educational reading.

The three mental institutions — Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield, East Mississippi Hospital at Meridian, and Ellisville State School — could



obtain significant improvement of many of their unfortunate patients by an interesting and ample library program.

In short, around 9,000 human beings are confined or hospitalized in these state institutions. An organized program to stimulate good reading habits and more intellectual interests for these people would not only enrich their lives and minds but would help to develop a sound rehabilitation program. In the long run, such a program would pay for itself.

We all remember the old saying, "There — but for the grace of God — go I". A slight change of circumstances could place any one of us in any of these institutions. As responsible citizens and as persons grateful for the grace of God, should we not do something about this clear lack of an organized library program in our state institutions?

(Continued on Page 15)



# CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING?

By EUDORA WELTY

In none of our hospitals or institutions, we in Mississippi are being told by the librarians whom it has long grieved, can you find a book. The shelves are empty. There simply aren't any books in Whitfield, in Ellisville, in Parchman.

Can't we do something?

To our friends who are ill or unfortunate in one way or another we don't, because we are so well or lucky, stop speaking. Indeed our natural wish is to rush to communicate. And neither do books stop speaking to the unfortunate. Would they understand the books if they had them to read? It's condescending to ask; they may not understand all or even very much, and the same goes for us. Communication is a two-way process; but in reading, even if one intends to close oneself off, still — as long as there are books — communication, even at the frailest and faultiest, does go on. Only if both ends stop, and only then, is communication hopeless. If the line's open, something more and more comes through.

To the perpetual child and the limited in mind, to the sick and infirm, and to the morally wavering, reading permits pleasure still, and this may be a pleasure greater than they've so far known: hope. Books may say things to those mentally worse off than we happen to be that we wouldn't recognize and might not believe, but this is valid and not a bit against the law. The written word is the language of the imagination. In the hands of an artist it always means more than it says, not less. It can mean what we think it says, plus what they think it says, plus what the author thought it meant when he put it on paper, and then some.



In fiction, and in poetry in particular, the word embodies a great deal over and beyond what would be enough to convey facts. It has become the language of the emotions, common to us all — to the children at Ellisville, the sick at Whitfield, the imprisoned at Parchman, to ourselves sitting up in our living rooms, in front of the TV. The great emotional truths, which fiction does not tell us, but conveys to us, are profound in their nature, multiple, complex, but they are also available, in some part, in almost any guise of simplicity.

Does the Bible not speak to little children and to all those who stay children — to whom it must be read aloud — as we can remember for ourselves? Would we deprive a child of the twenty-third Psalm because he can't add two and two and has been set to peeling potatoes at Ellisville?

(Continued on Page 12)



(Continued From Page 11)

And to the scholars, our own understanding must seem proportionately childlike. We, however, can read any book we like — or our libraries will be glad to get it for us.

Indeed, who says that we ourselves in general understand, really, any vast per cent of what we can read and if we want to? Yet nobody punishes us for this. Shakespeare is still handy.

If you were a child in Ellisville what if someone could sit beside you, reach for a book, and read —

"Come unto these yellow sands  
And then take hands . . ."

It would be hard to persuade any living ear that any other living ear would not be filled with the beauty of that, and somewhere, respond. Poetry indeed, speaking direct to the imagination, takes unbelievable short cuts, pierces right through blocks we don't even know of in our own minds to get there, to make itself eloquent not only after it's understood, but before.

Who are we, the supposed well ones and the upstanding custodians of the books, to say what poetry "means" to those to whom, for all we know, nothing else has the power to speak? After all, the imagination is aware, even alert, when perhaps the rest of the mind is but half awake, or partly darkened or disturbed, or pulled toward acts we see fit not to condone.

And as for bookless Parchman — is there any real reason why, if you have robbed a bank, you are thereby judged unfit to enjoy Robinson Crusoe? Or to ponder Pilgrim's Progress — or at least the fact that it was written in jail. And so were many great books, let us not forget. For any mind anywhere can become alight with the wish, the joy of the wish, to get in touch, to communicate with the world.

"Come unto these yellow sands" can speak infinitely and it can speak smaller ways. It is highly accommodating, the great poetry. And when a poem or a novel of magnitude speaks to the spirit, and it does, a door is opened.

This is the case with us all. We take different joy of books, each of us taking what he can and then that little extra that can somehow be surmised, we take that.

Enrichment of the mind follows reading not as inevitably as the thirst is quenched by a glass of water going down, yet an open mind stays thirstier forever than a parched throat ever gets. Enrichment of the mind is gradual, increasing with time and practice, and remains as something we have absorbed due to the persuasion and the suggestion and the enchantment of the word, working on our whole lives, by way of our individual pasts, our own peculiar powers, our private imaginations. But reading is its own end.

The reader who cannot grab as much as we can from books may suffer as much as we think we can, and more, from hunger and thirst of the spirit. Each of us has left in the end one same thing, that which is the first and last, privacy. And reading is for privacy. Not aloneness — that disappears. The treasure in books belongs to privacy — to everybody's privacy.

To deprive the already deprived — of treasure! — by not giving them books seems a needless and callous waste of a chance — the best we've got, perhaps — to give what is, after all, not exactly ours to give but what lies, by its nature and intent, already in the public domain.

Don't let us punish anyone, anywhere, ever, by keeping any book at all away from him. Rather let us see that those hopeless, empty shelves fill up. From our end, we can still get in touch.

By the time children are grown up their reading tastes are already formed and the librarian's function is to satisfy rather than to train.

— "Libraries and the Arts in St. Pancras." England, 1959-60.

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION

## FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

In The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award . . .

### Everybody Wins

By LURA G. CURRIER

"O wad some pow'r the giftie gie us  
To see oursels as ithers see us!"

The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award has given public libraries the very opportunity for which Robert Burns pled in his famous poem.

News releases throughout the country have recently carried word that eleven libraries have been winners in this nationwide contest. (See cover of this issue for the exciting announcement that the Tupelo Unit of the Lee-Itawamba Library System was one of these national winners.) But these news stories are basically wrong; all the libraries who entered the contest are winners; and all the state agencies who went through the agonizing recommendation process are winners, too.

As the Staff Committee of the Mississippi Library Commission refueled the crucible of midnight oil the last moments before the deadline still facing the impossible task of choosing two from among the eight applications, it would have been hard to convince them that such an impossible task was justified but even then they shared with the applying libraries: "Even if we don't win, we are glad we went through this self-analysis. It caused us to look squarely and honestly in a mirror and we have gained much, win or lose."

#### Population

Mississippi's problem was less extensive than some since there were only nine among all the public libraries in the state who fit every single criteria for eligibility. (These nine were in-

vited to apply; eight of them submitted applications.)

Some of those automatically disqualified were "ineligible" because they operated in units of service with branches or headquarters, or both, too large to fit into the population restrictions set by the Directors of the Book-of-the-Month Club. And this is good. In face of the limitations inherent in the small independent, "go-it-alone, service-notwithstanding" library, and our state's firm commitment to cooperative library structure, and the new public library standards, we joyfully announce that some of our best libraries were ruled out because of the first of the **Criteria** which read:

"Or, if a regional library, the largest population served by any unit may not exceed 25,000; the other units must serve less than 5,000."

#### Finances

Not the least of the value of such soul-searching as that necessary in the preparation of the detailed application for the Award comes from the discovery that there are some problems we do not have. So general is the Mississippi acceptance of the public library as a public responsibility that this standard presented no problem at all:

"At least half of the annual support of the library must be derived from public funds."

#### Consultation

The Mississippi Library Commission admits that it possibly stretched a

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

point when it so boldly claimed "yes" on this point:

"The State Extension Agency must agree to, and be in a position to, provide consultant service if requested by the library."

It takes no more than a hasty glance at the Commission's Field Staff schedule to suggest that something pertaining to the "willingness of the spirit but the weakness of the flesh" might creep in. On this glib promise to provide consultant service, however, we felt unusually safe since any one of the eight librarians could spend \$5,000 or \$1,000 for books wisely and well — and rapidly. Several of them admitted to having "stand-by" order slips just waiting for any financial windfall. If by chance, some extra dollars happened to drop in unexpectedly, the Commission's Reference Department could likely spend it for them by pulling out requests they've sent in during the last six months. Mississippi libraries admit to most of the troubles shared by any others but spending money for books, among those eligible for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award, is happily not among them.

#### Shortcomings

On other items from the list of Criteria, however, we could not be quite so smug.

It is the lack of "night life" in public libraries in Mississippi that stands out as their single most deterring factor in what the Award regards as good service. This one point rendered the most libraries ineligible:

"The library must be open to the public five days a week for at least part of each day, including some evenings."

This Criteria found some of Mississippi's libraries sadly wanting:

"It must be housed in a building capable of providing adequate shelving and display space for the large number of additional books."

One librarian, trying to give service in quarters outmoded by decades and

crowded almost beyond endurance, begged us: "Please announce publicly and loudly that we aren't eligible for anything but chaos until we get an adequate library building." Several will join her.

Few terms are any more relative than "adequate support" since, in libraries, as well as in all other facets of human endeavor, one man's adequacy may well be another's poverty and yet a third's abundance. Since the amount of support is so inextricably bound up with the nature and quality of service no libraries that met the other qualifications were eliminated by this item from the Criteria.

"Its community must make active use of its present facilities, free of charge, and support them adequately."

The current inability of any Mississippi library to approximate national standards speaks sufficiently clear as to whether communities, as yet, "support them adequately."

#### Significant Strengths

Two of the standards for eligibility revealed unusually strong features of all eight competing libraries — and made the task of recommending any two of them nearly heartbreaking. We refer to the items that required:

"It must have plans for its future development for which additional book resources are needed." and the basically important requirement:

"The library must show evidence of having governing officials actively interested in the progress of the library program."

To ascertain the imaginative nature of plans being nurtured by Mississippi one needs only to examine the list of services forming the discussion agenda of the Administrators' Conference held March 9, 10 as the initial one of a series of in-service training meetings. These services, like the list enumerated in the "Rating Sheets for Evaluation of Public Libraries" of the Merit

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued From Page 14)

Community Program, conceive of a broad range of public library responsibilities embracing service to people ill in hospitals, organized in clubs, resting in retirement, working in industry and living in minority groups.

Libraries with only one service outlet plan others; those with stationary units plan for bookmobile service. Many see their bookmobile stops growing into branches. All regret the limitations of their service to portions of their population and no public librarian and board of trustees meet without work on that particular aspect for "future development for which additional book resources are needed."

The state plan for library development, as promulgated by the Schenk Survey of 1948 in "People Without Books" and detailed in the "State Plan for the Further Extension of Public Library Service to Rural Areas" under the Library Services Act epitomizes the concerted dreams of Mississippi librarians for Mississippi's library future.

The attitude of elected officials in most towns and counties toward their public libraries (there are, of course, tragic exceptions) indicate that these dreams of librarians and trustees for their libraries' future can — and will — come true. There is no more practical indication of confidence than the fact that local support from aldermen and supervisors for public library purposes has risen from \$600,000 in 1950 to over \$2,000,000 in 1960.

When given the opportunity to say what they thought of their libraries by those preparing the Dorothy Canfield Fisher application, many of the officials who hold the library purse strings expressed themselves freely and willingly with testaments to their libraries that present a challenge to all engaged in any capacity in this vital community service.

## STATE INSTITUTIONS . . .

(Continued From Page 10)

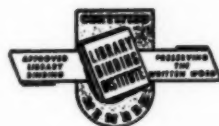
As in any democracy, the necessary preliminary steps are clear. Citizens in local communities must become interested, recognize the existing deficiency, and insist upon its removal.

Discuss it with your state senators, representatives, and other state officials, and urge them to persuade proper legislative committees to study the problem and to do something about it.

Recognition by citizens and public officials of the need of good library facilities and rehabilitation purposes is the principal step. It would result in alleviating this tragic deficiency in the state's hospital, mental and penal institutions.

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# MEET THE WINNER

By LURA G. CURRIER

"The Tupelo Unit of the Lee-Itawamba Library System has been given one of the \$1,000 grants in the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award."

This piece of exciting and profitable news has much in its background including the fact that it gave the Staff of the Mississippi Library Commission one of the most difficult tasks it ever faced. If Mississippi libraries were to have an opportunity to compete, the Commission had the inescapable responsibility to recommend two of its libraries.

When all other criteria seemed to have been met about equally by the 8 eligible libraries submitting applications, there remained one final consideration: "Which libraries have the best chance to win when put in competition with the many good libraries throughout the country?"

The Staff appreciates the spirit of the judges in keeping the comments

confidential but believes that all Mississippi libraries are so proud of Tupelo and so happy for them that they would like to share with the more than 1,000 readers of MLN these direct quotes from the Staff Committee's reply to the portion of the nomination form which asked for "comments judging the appropriateness of the award to this library."

To the Judges of the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award:

A careful reading of the detailed report in the application setting forth this library's participation in its community's affairs might well bring one to ask: "Is all of this true?" Indeed we here at the Library Commission would question any such report from any one library of that size if we did not KNOW every word of this to be true. The concept of the library's place in the community which is held

(Continued on Page 17)



The Reference Room of the Tupelo Library

(Continued From Page 16)

by that Staff and Board is unbelievable; it is equally unbelievable the degree to which they give life and meaning and action to their concept. Whatever happens in that entire area has some place for the library and the alert librarian and her staff see it immediately and begin figuring out how the library can participate. Consequently, the entire community thinks of the library when it begins planning things.

Their development has been due, among other things, to a devoted and capable library board of trustees and to officials in both city and county who support the library proudly and — well, no library in Mississippi is supported adequately but — adequately within their means.

At the state association level they have furnished leadership from their Staff and Trustees but most of all they have shown what we mean when we say that a public library is the "people's university." They have shown, too, that a library does not have to be big to be capable, active and effective.

While, of course, NO library reaches perfection — and we would not recognize it if it did — the only comment we have to make regarding this one is that we wish we had many, many others like it.

We would like to see them win this award for these reasons:

1. They would know what to do with it if they received it.

2. The money could not be invested in any library where it would be more wisely, more carefully and more effectively spent.

3. They deserve whatever honors, awards, and accolades there are to be given because of their active demonstration day after day, year after year of the BEST that the library profession and library service aim toward.

4. They recognized their inadequacy to meet their needs if they continued to operate on a small scale and have therefore extended their base of operation at a time when it took vision and perception to see how and why a larger unit of service would be necessary for them ultimately to achieve adequacy and efficiency.

5. They have not been too occupied with their own hard work and service demands to be concerned that they had neighbors who had nothing; therefore, they have extended their service to their neighbors at a time when they could well have said: "We have so much that we haven't accomplished yet that we just can't extend our service to others."

6. The organizational structure and service pattern of this library is such that, although given to a library in a town of 17,255 people, 55,635 will benefit directly from the books purchased with the Award money."

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### MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL SUPPLY COMPANY

Jackson, Mississippi





## The Professional Corner

### Librarians Institute To Be In Cleveland

A preconference institute for public and school librarians on **The Adult and the Child's World: The Library's Potential for Service**, will be held in Cleveland July 5-8, 1961, in Wade Park Manor near Western Reserve University.

Sponsored by the American Library Association Children's Services Division, and Adult Services Division, and by Western Reserve University School of Library Science, the institute will examine how school and public libraries can best serve parents, teachers, youth leaders, service clubs, and community representatives in their efforts to help all children to have satisfactory and rewarding lives. Some of the questions to be considered are: How can we best serve the vast numbers of adults whose concern is with the children of our communities? How do we increase our understanding and knowledge of community groups and the individuals who work with them and for them? Have we truly appraised our own situations and resources in terms of our special objectives and opportunities?

The institute is planned for librarians who work with children in school and public libraries and for librarians who work with adults in public, board of education, or other libraries serving adults who are concerned with children in one way or another.

Registration is limited to 225. Registration forms, including forms for hotel reservation, may be obtained from any of the three sponsors. The registration fee of \$10.00 covers institute costs and the institute workbook.

### LIBRARIES OFFERED TAPED INTERVIEW

A tape recorded interview with popular children's author Marguerite Henry is offered for use by school and public libraries free of charge by Rand McNally & Company.

Any librarian can obtain a copy of the approximately 13-minute tape accompanied by a written transcript for use in story hours and other children's programs by writing to Library Department, Rand McNally, P. O. Box 7600, Chicago 80, Ill.

### Young People Reading Politics, Sociology

Young people during 1960 were reading more about political and sociological problems in the world today than ever before and were concerned more with fact than fiction, a nation-wide survey of specialists in young adult reading in 46 big city high school and public libraries showed. Is this an indication that today's young adults are becoming increasingly aware of their responsibilities in the adult world?

This past year's reading by the 14 to 19-year age group showed an abrupt change from previous years, in that for the first time since World War II, young adults turned away from narratives about the war, with only a few exceptions.

"It's often difficult for librarians to reconcile the tales of juvenile decadence with the youths of the current generation as we know them," said Young Adult Librarian Miriam L. Trahan, Oakland Public Library, Oakland, Calif., chairman of the committee.

"We find in our surveys, year after year, a growing awareness of the world," Miss Trahan added.



# Library News Wins Award Of Excellence

The Mississippi Library News was honored in December in being named the "best internal house organ" published in Mississippi. A certificate of excellence was presented to Alan Skelton, president of the Mississippi Library Association and to Mrs. C. C. Clark, chairman of the editorial board of Mississippi Library News, by Joe Howell, president of the Advertising Club of Mississippi.

The award was made by the Advertising Club of Mississippi to the Mississippi Library News on the basis of editorial content. "This obviously is a well-read publication. It is attractively presented, carries interesting pictures and names of people important in librarianship, and is well-planned and organized," the judges stated in listing their reasons for selecting Mississippi Library News for the award of excellence.

The Mississippi Library News competed against all other house organs in the state including those of large industrial groups, state publications, association magazines, etc.

## MLA Plans Convention In Jackson In October

### Miss. Lib. Ass'n.

The executive board and advisory council of MLA met in Jackson March 11 to make preliminary plans for the association's convention next October. Other routine business was conducted. Executive board members include Alan Skelton, Glida Bethea, Mary Ellen Guess, Mrs. Iola Magee, Mrs. Mary Jo Magee, Mary Love. Advisory Council members are: Mrs. Gordon White, Mrs. Etta Pace, Mrs. Reba Sowell, May Ann Stanback, Bob Outlaw, Mrs. Lura Currier, Mrs. Ada McCaa Sumrall.

I would define a book as a work of magic whence escapes all kinds of images to trouble the souls and change the hearts of men. — Anatole France.



Joe Howell, president, Advertising Club of Mississippi, presents an Award of Excellence to the Mississippi Library News as "best internal house organ" in the state. Receiving the certificate are Mrs. C. C. Clark, chairman of the editorial board and Alan Skelton, president, Mississippi Library Association.

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Treasurer's Report

January 1, 1960 — December 31, 1960

### I. GENERAL FUND

Balance January 1, 1960 .....		\$ 859.32
Receipts during 1960 to December 31, 1960:		
Dues ..	\$1,336.50	
Convention exhibits .....	681.00	
Convention registration .....	162.00	
	\$2,179.50	2,179.50
Total .....		\$3,038.82

#### Expenditures:

Travel (ALA representative, \$200; President — in addition to Exec. Board expense, \$100) .....	\$ 300.00	
Executive Board Expense .....	393.73	
Mississippi Library News .....	400.00	
Other expenses (postage, telephone, conv., committee expenses, stationery, etc.) .....	1,096.25	
Refund of duplicate dues payment .....	14.00	
Refund to exhibitor for cancellation .....	18.00	
	\$2,221.98	2,221.98
Balance .....		\$ 816.84

### II. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Balance January 1, 1960 .....		\$ 285.61
Receipts from contributions (1960) .....	\$ 290.57	
Interest ..	11.11	
	\$ 301.68	301.68
Total .....		\$ 587.29

#### Expenditures:

Miss Peggy Jane May, Scholarship (3rd payment on 1959-60 scholarship) .....	\$ 100.00	
Miss Carol Hague, Scholarship (1st payment on 1960-61 scholarship) .....	150.00	
	\$ 250.00	250.00
Additional obligated for 1960-61 scholarships .....		250.00
Unobligated balance .....		\$ 87.29

# MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY NEWS, 1960

## FINANCIAL REPORT

BALANCE brought forward from 1959 .....	\$ 214.55
<b>INCOME &amp; RECEIPTS</b>	
Mississippi Library Association .....	400.00
Mississippi Library Commission .....	400.00
<b>ADVERTISEMENTS</b>	
March - December, 1960 .....	\$1,166.25
(Collections Due for December, 1960) .....	25.15
<b>TOTAL MONEY FOR 1960</b> .....	<b>\$2,205.95</b>

## EXPENDITURES

<b>Printing MLN</b>	
March .....	\$430.00
June .....	474.00
September .....	514.00
December .....	474.00
Mailing MLN (March - September) .....	112.45
(December Bill Not Received)	
Stationery, Postage .....	15.93
Picture .....	4.00
Telephone .....	1.11
MLN Certificates .....	18.72
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> .....	<b>\$2,044.21</b>
<b>BALANCE AS OF FEBRUARY, 1960</b> .....	<b>\$161.74</b>
(Less Outstanding December Mailing Bill, Etc.)	

- (1) Easy Books for Younger Children With Reviews and Recommendations by Library Authorities.
- (2) The Famous Classics in Good Print With Many Illustrations in Color.
- (3) Teen-Age Novels and Older by Rosamond du Jardin, Janet Lambert, Bess Streeter Aldrich, Grace Livingston Hill, Emilie Loring, Zane Grey and Others. Books of Science Fiction.
- (4) "Whodunits" and "Westerns" by the Following Popular Authors: Gardner, Fair, Christie, Field, Stout, Carr, Max Brand and Others.



**LIBRARY DISTRIBUTORS**

**New Orleans 12, La.**

# The President's Page

## MLA MUST INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

By ALAN SKELTON

We are again approaching National Library Week which is the time for assessing trends and progress in library services; what better time could there be for taking stock of ourselves as a library organization. We have come of age and know the direction in which we should progress, but this is not possible without the wholehearted support of all Mississippians interested in furthering the advances of libraries.

We have not reached two-thirds of the membership in MLA which is possible in our State. I urge you all to put forth every effort on behalf of the increase of our membership to at least 1,000 in 1961. March was designated as membership month; let us each one assume some responsibility for recruiting each librarian and trustee whom we know did not join in March. It can be done if we all lend our support.

An effort has been made to tie in the



Scholarship Fund with membership, for some feel we fall sadly short of what should be made available for prospective library students in Mississippi. As we have stated on other occasions, if each member contributed even as small an amount as 50c a year, our fund would grow. Let us be alert to every possible means of helping our organization to remain a mature group, awake to every opportunity.

## Colonial Book Service

Specialists in supplying the out-of-print books as listed in all Library Indices (Granger Poetry; Essay and General Literature; Shaw; Standard; Fiction; Biography; Lamont Catalogue; Speech, etc. . . .)

**WANT LISTS INVITED—CATALOGUES ON REQUEST**  
23 EAST FOURTH STREET  
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

## Libraries Promote Civil War Centennial

Libraries in the state, public, school, special and college, are taking proper promotional advantage of the Civil War Centennial. Each has its plans for exhibits, discussion groups, special programs, and the like. According to those reporting so far, these activities seem to be enthusiastically received by patrons of all ages and interests.

The Bolivar Troop of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of the Confederacy sponsored a Civil War Centennial display under the direction of the Bolivar County Library during February. The exhibit began in January and, due to the interest shown, was extended for one month.

Among the pieces of interest to scholar and layman alike are a slave-built cradle from Virginia, a cavalry sabre, and a dress worn by Mrs. Thomas J. Dakin, the property of Dr. Dakin in Fitzgerald of Cleveland. The sabre

belonged to William Fitzgerald of Monroe County who entered the military service at the age of fourteen; he later became a physician. The dress is of antebellum vintage. Andy Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Griffin, lent an original engraving of the Battle of Corinth, October 4, 1862, and a belt buckle, cannon balls, Minie ball, powder flask, and a book of battles and leaders of the Civil War.

Mrs. A. W. Shands contributed an autograph book belonging to the late Robert Somerville, a page in the Virginia Senate of 1862; the book contains the autographs of the members of the senate. A series of letters written by L. B. Thomas to his sister and wife while he was in the Confederate Army are the property of Mrs. M. C. Simpson. Also of interest is an original letter written by Private Alfred Cox Smith to his mother after the

(Continued on Page 24)



MSCW rebel delves into Civil War lore, inspired by special Centennial Bulletin Board and display of recent books at J. C. Fant Memorial Library. "Picture Map of the Civil War" in center of the display is by Grosset and Dunlap. Similar maps are available from "Parade" and "This Week" for \$1.00.

(Continued From Page 23)

Battle of Shiloh. It is written on stationery taken from a Yankee Camp, the property of Mrs. Joseph M. Howorth. Mrs. Howorth is also displaying a typed script of more than 100 letters written by Colonel William L. Nugent to his wife, with an original of one letter being on display.

Beeswax flowers made shortly before the war, loaned by Mrs. Homer Sledge, is attracting flower enthusiasts. Teaspoons hidden from the Yankees in the ashes of an old smokehouse are the property of Mrs. Clarence Smith; they belonged to her great grandmother.

Mrs. Clark Boyd has contributed a piece of a Confederate soldier's blanket, a piece of a blanket of a Union soldier, an apothecary case carried by her grandfather, James Love, and buttons from the Federal uniform of Mr. Love. A sewing kit used by a Confederate soldier is the property of H. P. Brooke.

Hanging in the library are: "The Last Meeting of Lee and Jackson," belonging to Judge E. H. Green; a portrait of General Charles Clark, the property of Charles C. Jacobs, Jr., and also a letter from General Clark; a portrait of General Lee, property of Cal Busby; and several pictures of battles, in addition to a painting by Joseph M. Howorth of the Battle of Brownsville.

Confederate stamps and currency are also on display. A nickel three-cent piece dated 1865 has been loaned by S. R. Blakeman, Jr. Mrs. Florence Sillers Ogden of Rosedale has loaned pictures of the homes of Jefferson Davis and Joe Davis taken before and after the war, and also one of the Shirley House at Vicksburg and the Vicksburg Courthouse during the siege; a wallet and contents carried by Charles Farrar, nephew of General Charles Clark; and a ring General Clark made from a button from his uniform on which he inscribed DIXIE in silver from a melted dime.

A picture of J. M. Kirby who lived to be 100 years old, made at the last old soldiers' reunion in Pittsburg, is the property of Mrs. Peggy Morris, granddaughter of Mr. Kirby. Mrs. Edmund Brinkley is displaying a picture of her great-grandparents. A newspaper of August 6, 1881, property of Mrs. Marx Griffin, gives an account of a night with Jackson by Colonel A. R. Boteler. Also shown is an original bill of sale for two slaves in May, 1858; an 1848 paper showing the passage of the Oregon Territorial Bill; and notes from a chaplain in 1864 saying soldiers had joined the church while in service.

David M. Jackson has contributed his great-grandfather's parole from a Union prison to return home. Dresses belonging to Mrs. Percy Bond of Pace, made in 1830, may be seen.

Abe Somerville has provided a map of a portion of the Mississippi River. C. L. Beckham of Shaw has loaned a sword cane, Confederate bonds and money, and scales for weighing medicine carried by his grandfather, A. E. Fulger, 39th Mississippi Regiment. A derringer pistol used in the Civil War and a gambler's gun, the type used in the assassination of Lincoln, have been loaned by Bill Swindoll, along with a long range .50 calibre gun made in 1864.

The foregoing represents one of the first events in Mississippi in connection with the Civil War Centennial; it was very well received by the patrons and visitors of the Cleveland Public Library.

In Gulfport, Miss Maria Person, librarian of the Gulfport Carnegie Harrison County Library, has been appointed a member of the Civil War Centennial Commission. The group has as its main project the formation of the Civil War Round Table of South Mississippi, the second such round table to be formed in the state. Miss Person is on the executive board of the Round Table.



## Lowndes County Library Is In New Quarters

The Lowndes County Library is settled in its new quarters at 720 4th Avenue North in Columbus. The new location, with 1980 square feet of floor space, provides more adequate facilities for library service. The library offers four avenues of service — telephone, stationary units (Columbus, Artesia and Caledonia), bookmobile and mail. It has changed its hours to include night service, thus accommodating more people. The book collection has been considerably upgraded and classified. The Lowndes County Library has not reached its goals by far, but it has come far from its starting point and that is the way progress is measured.

These innovations grew out of a request from the Library Sub-Committee of the Education Committee of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce to the Mississippi Library Commission back in 1958. As a result, the MLC submitted a four-year plan for "Improved Library Service for Columbus and Lowndes County." In 1959, a special committee of librarians from the Mississippi Library Association made an "Analysis of Public Library Service for Lowndes County with Special Attention to Building Needs." This was followed by bringing Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Public Library Specialist living in Alabama, to Columbus, who made a study and consequent recommendations for "Public Library Service in Columbus and Lowndes County."

This Chamber of Commerce, under the chairmanship of Bruce Ferguson, working with the library board of trustees, contributed leadership and guidance all along the way in improving library service in the county. Serving on the County Library Board are Mrs. J. Allison Hardy, chairman; Mrs. Edith Weitzenhoffer, William Lee Sanders, Mason Walley, Miss Frances Golding and Mrs. H. S. Potts.

Mrs. Douglas Bateman is librarian of the Columbus unit of the County Library System and Mrs. Betty Smith

### Public Libraries

is librarian in charge of the bookmobile service. Mrs. Glover Freeman is librarian at Caledonia and Mrs. Emmett McIlwain, Jr., at Artesia.

Miss Mary Love, Associate Director of the Mississippi Library Commission, has served as librarian and special consultant during the period of reorganization and renovation.

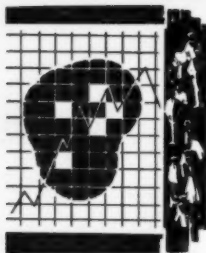
There is a long way to go yet, but the Lowndes County Library is in a better position today to serve the needs of its patrons. It reflects what can be done when citizen interest is combined with professional guidance.

### Song of the Science Fair

I bought out half the stores in town,  
I waited as I should,  
While Mama read the textbooks  
And Daddy sawed the wood.  
At last the science fair is here,  
They stand in admiration,  
And marvel, "How precocious is  
The younger generation!"

No longer must my Mama have  
Two ivory telephones;  
And Daddy doesn't need a car  
As long as Mr. Jones'.  
In elevated aspirations  
Parents all can revel,  
For now they are competing at  
The science project level!  
— Virginia Small Alford  
Greenwood, Mississippi





## State's Libraries Continue To Open At Rapid Rate

Continuing to open at a rapid rate, Mississippi libraries keep up progress begun in 1957, since which time over 50 new libraries have been opened, over 40 renovated.

### Harriette Person Memorial Library

The Harriette Person Memorial Library in Port Gibson has undergone many changes. The main library room has been completely redecorated and new shelving and furniture installed. A room upstairs in this lovely old building has been made into a local history room. In all the renovation, the charm and dignity of the antebellum atmosphere has been retained. Miss Margaret Guthrie, librarian, invites all visitors to view the library during the annual pilgrimage.

### Bay Springs Public Library

The formal opening of the Bay Springs Public Library on January 9 marked the culmination of a long time dream for the citizens of this Jasper County town. The hard work of the Quest Club, the cooperation of the Mayor and board of aldermen and the interest of all citizens resulted in the colorful and well-stocked library located in the City Hall. Mrs. W. W. Abney is the librarian; she reports very encouraging circulation figures. Members of the board of trustees are: H. H. Crisler, Jr., chairman; Mrs. W. T. Ruffin, Mrs. R. L. Abney, Jr., Mrs. W. J. Shoemaker and W. G. Horn.

### Ellisville Public Library

Ellisville opened its first public library on January 28, the result of a successful project spearheaded by the Fidelia Club and planned with the Mayor and board of aldermen. The library is operated by volunteers and

governed by a board of trustees: Mrs. Cecil Johnson, Mrs. J. H. Thomas, Mrs. Ed Endom, Mrs. George Harrison and E. M. Keith.

### Greenwood-Leflore Public Library

The Greenwood-Leflore Public Library reports a striking addition in the form of a renovated basement area. Need for additional space for library and community meetings resulted in partitioning the area, by means of bookcases, into spaces for a committee room, county book area, book mending and bulletin board work room, and a storage room. Lalla Walker Lewis, Greenwood artist, acted as consultant in decorating the basement of the new building. Suggesting an oriental decor, the new area is enlivened by turquoise floors, citron walls, a black chest, a Chinese red table and an old oak children's reading room table done in several depths of blue and lacquer-finished.

An extensive collection of Indian artifacts has been loaned to the Greenwood-Leflore Public Library by interested patrons for display during February. L. B. Jones, Carrie Avent, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Clark and Mrs. Aven Whittington classified the material and set up the exhibit. Seventy-four enthusiasts came to the library to participate in their discussion. Mr. Jones has made a study of archaeological work and findings in this area; and, through his knowledge, the library is acquiring authoritative book material.

Since the artifacts are labeled, patrons of all ages have learned that

(Continued on Page 27)

(Continued From Page 26)

an arrowhead is called a projectile point; they glibly use the terms plummet, gorget, celt, shell and fiber tempered, Baytown Type. Artifacts have created an interest and books on archaeology are becoming as popular as Who-Done-Its.

Last summer the building doubling as quarters for the Walnut Library and Community Center was sold. In order to provide space for the library facilities and to meet other civic needs the town board authorized the acquisition of a small, attractive office building. This is the new home of the library facilities. Completely furnished and equipped, the Walnut Library created quite a sensation with 348 registering guests who attended the

Open House on December 8, 1960.

In cooperation with the Mississippi Library Commission and the Carnegie Library Board, Houston and the City Board have sponsored a number of improvements at the Carnegie Library. Freshly sanded floors look quite like new flooring; modern furnishings and additional shelving add to the comfort and beauty of the library. All of the walls have been freshly painted a restful light green, and matching green venetian blinds are at every window. The former small office has been converted to duty as a youth room, and another small room, where a new broom closet has been added, has become the magazine room. The new floor furnace is perhaps the nicest addition of all.



Aberdeen High School students chose to spend a recent holiday afternoon by diligently working at the Evans Memorial Library. The assignment of 2,000 words on some topic connected with Mississippi, the Magnolia State, put to use the library's collection of books, pamphlets, maps, clippings, etc., relating to this subject.

# Around The Libraries

## CARNEGIE PUBLIC CLARKSDALE

Now in progress at the Carnegie Public Library in Clarksdale is an Interdenominational Bible Study Course based on the intellectual and historical approach to the background of the Bible. The group meets at the library each Wednesday at 9:30 a. m. The course began in October and will continue until May. Mrs. Ruth Stoddard, a member of the Library Staff, who has made a study of background history on both the Old and New Testaments, is the lecturer. An average of 35 people attend the meetings.

## FISK PUBLIC — NATCHEZ

Fisk Public Library has a new stereo record player, a gift of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.

## DIXIE REGIONAL PONTOTOC COUNTY

The Dixie Regional Library (Pontotoc and Calhoun counties) in cooperation with the Mississippi Library Commission has extended its mobile service to Chickasaw County.

## EVANS MEMORIAL—ABERDEEN

Mayor George W. Howell, Jr., recently appeared on the Evans Memorial Library's weekly broadcast, the Read-a-Book program. He gave his Centennial Proclamation and discussed matters relating to the Centennial Observance in Aberdeen.

The Evans Memorial Library's Read-a-Book program has been broadcast each Saturday at WMPA for nine years.

## CAPITAL AREA

Capital Area Regional Library has had a busy quarter with the establishment of five colored branches in Magee, Mendenhall, Utica, Raymond, and Clinton. With the completion of shelving, one will be open in Bolton. These branches are established in schools with provisions made for the use of the library by adults in the commun-

ity. Plans are complete for the opening of two new white branches in D'Lo and Edwards. The Town Boards have consented to provide the buildings for these libraries and with the cooperation of the civic and church groups, these branches should be an overwhelming success.

Capital Area's former director, Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Jr., has accepted a position as Director of Public Relations with the Louisiana State Library Commission. Before joining Capital Area, Mrs. Taylor had been employed in the newspaper field.

Plans for a workshop to be held by Mrs. Florinell Morton, Director of the L.S.U. Library School, are postponed until spring. All branch librarians attend the semi-annual workshops held at Headquarters.

A Hinds County Library Committee has been formed and plans are under way for similar ones in Scott and Simpson Counties. These committees are appointed by the supervisors and have one member from each beat. They will create a closer working relationship between the library, the supervisors, and the public.

Reports of the substantial increase in circulation from school bookmobile librarians are most gratifying. Bookmobile service is being given to the school at Magee for the first time.

## GRENADA COUNTY LIBRARY

Grenada County Library is completely snowed under by seniors seeking materials on their term papers. Elizabeth Jones, librarian, says that with all this talk about how badly teenagers behave, they have been proud to report that not once has a teenager needed correction, even with ev-

(Continued on Page 29)

(Continued From Page 28)

ery nook and cranny filled with high school students.

#### NOXUBEE COUNTY LIBRARY

The Noxubee County Library sponsors a book discussion group now in its second year, in cooperation with the Adult Education Department of Mississippi State University. Recently a lecture on communism by Dr. Gordon K. Bryan, professor of Government at MSU attracted a large crowd. The book discussions and lectures tend to recreate the old town hall meetings of the early American days.

#### LEE COUNTY LIBRARY

Patrons of Lee County Library have eagerly checked out stereophonic recordings of the season's musicals scheduled to appear in Memphis. Some persons check the records before seeing the show in order to become informed and to increase enjoyment of the performance; others check them after the show, declaring it is almost as good

as seeing the show again; and still others prefer to "double check" both before and after attending the musical. So popular are the recordings that these is always a list of reserves.

A week preceding the show in Memphis, an excellent review of "Fiorello" was given at the Lee County Library, accompanied with stereophonic music. Requests have come for similar reviews of future musicals.

#### BOLIVAR COUNTY LIBRARY

The proposed library building for Bolivar County will be under construction this spring.

If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to live up to our national promise and live up to our national destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in public libraries. — President John F. Kennedy.

The Tuscaloosa Library Bindery combines craftsmanship and prompt service to create an unexcelled bindery service.

Specialists in Periodical and Library Book Binding Genuine Picture Covers where Title Available used on all books at no additional cost.

## TUSCALOOSA LIBRARY BINDERY

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Tuscaloosa, Alabama

# Bookmobile Librarian Tells Adventures

By **ELSIE RUTH DAVIS**  
Copiah County Librarian

As I was completing the circulation records for the year 1959-60 for the first bookmobile service in Jefferson County, I thought, My! How I would like to share a very few of my treasured experiences with others.

I had a marvelous time riding with Mrs. Esther Vaughn and Miss Mary Love as they mapped out the bookmobile routes for Jefferson County. I had no idea of the work and planning that went on before a bookmobile could start traveling.

I could hardly wait for September 23, 1959, for this was to be our first trip in Jefferson on the bookmobile.

We were so happy to have 35 registers and 78 books checked out that day. Now at the close of our first year's trial run we have 312 readers and a circulation of 17,839 in Jefferson County alone. The entire circulation for Copiah and Jefferson is 45,050 for bookmobile.

I would not exchange places with anyone, even though we have had some very, very hot days and some very, very cold ones. The weather did not stop our readers nor our bookmobile from going. The greatest thrill of all is when we stop and hear youngsters calling, "There comes the book-e-bile" or "There comes the O-ze-mo-bile." One young lady of seven told me her teacher had asked her how she had remembered so well during the summer, and that she was the best reader in the class. Her answer was, "I read from the Bookmobile all the summer." This made me feel great!

I could not forget those seventy years young and over who are so faithful. They come and pass the time of day, browse and go home with an armload of books. Sometimes paper bags are filled to the top. They tell me how pretty I am and how sweet I am when perspiration and dirt is

streaming down my face. Of course, I know I am looking and feeling like a witch, but gee, how pleased I am. There is nothing like gaining new friends through service. I marvel at the patience these people have with me.

There is "Uncle Jim" who gets on the bookmobile, reading aloud, forgetting all of the others until he has made his selections. He is lost in a world of BOOKS. Another dear friend wanted nothing but material on a certain evangelist; believe me, we could not lose a prospect, so after a time we came up with his request.

I will have to admit "Aunt Sally" and "Uncle Bill" are slightly spoiled and will patiently wait for their "Specials" selected by me. Here again I swell with pride.

I believe we can boast the youngest to get on the Bookmobile. He is Master William Scott Phillips, Jr. He visited us at the age of two weeks.

I have ridden 13,094 miles on the bookmobile since September 23, 1959, and I hope I will have the privilege of riding many more miles and many more years. I find every trip a new experience and almost every trip a new friend.

Riding the bookmobile hasn't kept me from enjoying the "Summer Vacation Reading Program," for I had 27 to register for this program in Jefferson County. They met the bookmobile, registered, checked out books on their reading level, then reported to me how many they had read on my next trip. We are enjoying having the Home Demonstration Club Members read with us.

As I select books for MY bookmobile I try to remember what my readers like and dislike, and personally select those the individual likes.

I firmly believe if you LOVE your readers you will do all you can to please them.

## TRUSTEE PROFILE

# Fisk Library's New President Of The Board Is Head Of Family Of Readers

After living in Natchez for over seven years, Jason N. (Jay) Kutack was elected President of the Board of Trustees of Fisk Public Library in July, 1980. A "transplanted" Yankee from Michigan, he has been employed as a forester in the Woodlands Department of International Paper Company since he moved South in 1950.

Kutack was born in Ironwood, Michigan, in 1925. His elementary and secondary education was completed in Michigan after he attended a dozen different schools ranging from the one-room country school to the metropolitan high school in eight different communities.

A month after turning 18 in 1943 Kutack joined the U. S. Army Air Force. After basic training in Florida, college training in Arkansas, and pre-flight training in Texas, he was sent to aerial navigator's school in Monroe,

## Trustees' Section

La., where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in December, 1944. After radar-bombardier training in California, Arizona and New Mexico, he was assigned to a B-29 combat crew. World War II ended in Japan just as his crew was to fly to Saipan.

After separation early in 1946, Kutack entered the University of Michigan where he obtained the B. S. degree in Forestry in 1949 and the Master of Forestry degree in 1950.

He was employed by International Paper Company as a timber cruiser in 1950 and began work in Southwest Mississippi. A few months later he was transferred to Amite, La., where he managed company timberlands. In 1952 he moved to Canton where he performed conservation timber marking for a year. Then in 1953 he was appointed Mississippi Conservation Forester.

Presently Kutack is the Southern Kraft Delta Woodlands Region Conservation Forester. He is responsible for the planning and coordinating of forestry public and community relations in the Delta Woodlands Region, an area composed of the eastern two-thirds of Louisiana, the western two-thirds of Mississippi, and a small portion of southeastern Arkansas.

He is a captain in the U. S. Air Force Reserve and is the Flight Specialized Training Instructor in Natchez. He is also attached to the Candidate Advisory Service of the U. S. Air Force Academy as Air Force Academy Liaison Officer for Southwest Missis-

(Continued on Page 32)



Jason N. Kutack



(Continued From Page 31)

Mississippi. He is a member of the Reserve Officers Association and the Air Force Association. Once each year a two-week tour of active duty is spent with the Air Force, keeping him proficient in his Air Force Specialty, Intelligence.

Kutack is a member of the Society of American Foresters and presently is editing the quarterly Newsletter of the Gulf States Section comprised of 1,000 foresters in Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. He also is active as the Chairman of the Membership and Public Relations Committees of the Mississippi Forestry Association. He is also a member in good standing of the Louisiana Forestry Association and the American Forestry Association.

Kutack is one of the six members of the Eastbrook Subdivision Activities Council in Natchez. This body plans and coordinates the various social events and the subdivision-wide holiday decorations each year.

He is a member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Natchez and teaches the Senior High Sunday School class.

Kutack is married to the former Jean Collins of Hattiesburg, whom he met at the University of Michigan, and they have four children: Mardi, 9; Jai, 7; Kristin, 5; and Annette, 3.

Theirs is a family of readers. Books — over 2,500 of them — litter their home and the accumulation will never cease, for everyone has the book-reading and book-acquiring habit. A Saturday pilgrimage to the Fisk Public Library by the little Kutacks is just about a weekly occurrence.

Now the chief aim is the promotion of a new library building to house the Fisk Public Library and all the Kutacks — big and little — are working to that end.

Mrs. Gordon White, chairman of Trustees' Section, attended the mid-winter meeting of ALA in Chicago.

## No Time to Read?

"One of the complaints we hear most often about the pace of modern life is that it leaves no time for reading. As a matter of fact, probably the person who thinks, quite honestly, that he has 'no time to read' has in mind a lengthy session with the printed word. No one esteems a protracted session of reading more than we, but if that is impossible, we have discovered that even a few minutes every day devoted to something worth the perusal will supply a gratifying measure of information, entertainment and stimulation. Nearly everybody, we should think, can find 15 minutes in each 24 hours for a good book. In the long run it amounts to a great deal." — Memphis Commercial Appeal

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## Paperback Book Fair At Wood Junior College

The Wood Junior College Library at Mathiston is conducting a "Paperback Book Fair" for the benefit of students and the surrounding community. Any profits from sales will be used to buy paperbacks suggested by students and teachers for the Wood Library. An order book is kept at the loan desk for the convenience of campus patrons or residents of nearby communities, such as Mathiston, Maben and Eupora. School people of Webster County are invited to contact the school principal for centralization of requests from the school to the Wood College Library.

### Picks of Paperbacks

Several tables and the bulletin board contain guides to the wonderland of paperbacks, such as R. R. Bowker's 1960 edition of "Paperbounds in Print." Special lists of books selected by experts in the fields of religion, music, history, business, science and literature are on display.

### Parade of Paperbacks

The glass exhibit case in the foyer of the Wood Memorial Building is being used for a parade of paperbacks by subjects. Mrs. Edward Lloyd, librarian, and others are lending some personal copies of paperbacks for this project. Groups of books to be shown are: reference books and dictionaries; religion; business; health and medicine; history; language and literature; hobbies and sports; biography; and fiction. The whole project is designed to create interest in extra-curricular reading and book collecting.

The American Library Association convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, July 9-15.

All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been; it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books. — Carlyle.

## Delta State College Library Promotes Art

Nicholas Vergette, noted ceramic sculptor, was honored at a reception

### College Libraries

in the W. B. Roberts Memorial Library at Delta State College on February 5. The exhibition of his works, sponsored by American Association of University Women, Cleveland Branch, drew many visitors from the surrounding Delta area. A native of Market Deering, England, Vergette received his art education in his native land and taught at various art institutes there. Later A. A. U. W. sponsored shows will be by Melvin Daly of Memphis State University; James Bryan, University of Mississippi, and Tom Young of New York and Pope, Mississippi.

An exhibition of paintings by Virginia C. Robinson, associate librarian at MSCW, will be a feature of National Library Week, April 16-22.



Nicholas Vergette

## Clark College Professor Writes Bible Story

Sanders Memorial Library at Clarke College, Newton, was the scene recently of an enthusiastic autographing party celebrating the publication by the Broadman Press of "A Layman's Harmony of the Gospels" by Dr. John F. Carter, a member of the faculty. Friends in the college area responded to invitations to greet Dr. Carter and during the hours of 2-4 p. m. approximately 200 of them asked him to autograph their individual copies of his book.

Scholars reviewing "A Layman's Harmony of the Gospels" have praised the abundance and clarity of its notes, and predict that it will be used widely. It will be used as a text at Clarke College.

## TRY THIS SOME TIME

Mrs. Hazel Polk, librarian at Pearl River Junior College, recently invited the faculty to hold its February meeting in the library. A list of all the new books was distributed to each member. The Homemaking Class furnished refreshments and flower arrangements. Attractive exhibits emphasized Lincoln's birthday and Valentine's Day. "Men Through the Ages" was the caption of a bulletin board featuring biography, and "Valentine Greetings From Around the World" was the title of a display of travel and history books about various countries. After the meeting faculty members enjoyed a survey of what the library had to offer in many fields.

## Delta College Girl Letters 9,000 Books

Lettering is not a lost art.

Billye Jean Lipe of Boyle, Miss., a senior at Delta State College, has literally written her way through four years of college.

She letters new books at the Roberts Memorial Library, using an electric stylus with special white carbon. As soon as the books are catalogued, she places the number on the outside.



Billye Jean Lipe

"I touch every book that comes into the library," said Miss Lipe, an accounting major who graduates in June. "And that is a statement no other student at Delta State can make."

Miss Lipe has lettered more than 9,000 books since she learned the art as a library assistant her freshman year at Delta State. She has re-lettered some 750 books by scratching off old letters and adding new ones. Each book has an average of ten letters on its spine — that means Miss Lipe has done more than 90,000 letters.

"I'm a regular work scholarship student at Delta State," she said, "and I spend about ten hours each week working in the library. Most of this time is spent on lettering books."

Lettering books might be considered one of the most unusual hobbies a college coed could have, but she considers it a job as well as a hobby.

Besides her work and study, she puts a little spice into life by pickling peaches from her father's orchard in Boyle.

## NEW SIMMONS LIBRARY HAS OPENING



Exterior view of New Simmons Library, Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Summit.

On January 8th, Frances Murry, librarian at Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Summit, accepted the keys of the new Simmons library from Roger Barrett, associate architect.

The \$115,000 brick building is completely air-conditioned and provides space for nearly 20,000 volumes. The large main reading room is supplemented by twenty individual study carrels, a music room, workroom, Mississippi room, class and rest rooms, audio facilities and two offices. New furniture, archways laminated pine, and wall panels of birch add charm to the interior.

An impressive ceremony marked the dedication of the library. Forrest C. Palmer, director of libraries at Miss. State University, spoke on "The Library, Heart of the College." C. A. Reeves, of Emerald Community, and president of the SMJC Board of Trustees, paid tribute to the man for whom the library is named, Robert L. Simmons, one of the college founders and past president of the board. His sur-

living children, Judge Hansford Simmons of McComb; Richard Simmons of Gretna, Louisiana, and Ora L. Simmons of Jackson, were seated on the speaker's platform. Judge Simmons also introduced a large number of relatives.

The new music room is named for Miss Vivian Aston, long-time music teacher at SMJC. Her sisters, Mrs. George Covington and Mrs. J. H. Price of Magnolia, a niece, Mrs. Donald B. Jackson, and a nephew, Will Price of McComb, were present for the dedication. They have donated a collection of records and record shelving for the room in honor of Miss Aston.

Another important feature of the dedication was the presentation of the Mary Cain Collection of Mississippiana by Mrs. Mary D. Cain, editor-publisher of the Summit Sun and an alumna of the college in its AHS days. Mrs. Cain included in her gift valuable Mississippi histories, autographed books by Mississippi authors, bound files of "The Summit Sun" and the Congress-

(Continued on Page 36)

(Continued From Page 35)

sional Record, to be added to her previous gifts of early SMJC publications such as "Whispering Pines" and "The Pine Burr," which she has published through the years.

President H. T. Huddleston welcomed guests and served as master of ceremonies. Following the dedication program, D. W. Conerly, chairman of the Building Committee, and Darryl Wallace, president of the Student Body, formally cut the blue satin ribbon to open the new building to the public.

An added pleasure for the visitors was an exhibition of paintings by five well-known Pike county artists: Ruth Atkinson, Bess Dawson and Halcyone Barnes of Summit; Mrs. Jim Tatum of Holmesville and Eugene Easley of McComb, and mobiles by Laura Jean Magee of Summit and New Orleans. The exhibit was sponsored by the Pike County Branch of AAUW.

## MLA Bulletin Announces Grants For Study In Medical Librarianship

The Bulletin of the Medical Library Association for January, 1961, carried the announcement that the U. S. Public Health Service has awarded five-year grants for graduate study in medical librarianship to the A. W. Calhoun Medical Library, Emory University School of Medicine, and to the Biomedical Library, University of California. Three traineeships are available to each library.

Applicants must be graduates of American Library Association accredited library schools. Applications and further inquiries should be addressed for the Emory program to: Miss Mildred Jordan, Librarian, A. W. Calhoun Medical Library, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta 22, Ga. and for the UCLA program to: Miss Louise Darling, Librarian, Biomedical Library, University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles 24, Calif.



Guests inspect interior of Simmons Library.

## Department Of Archives And History Readies For Museum Opening In March

Travel and study are the order of the day for librarians at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History as the construction of the Old Capitol Museum nears completion.

Mrs. Lindsay Grimes, catalog librarian, spent several days in the Georgia Department of Archives and History in December, studying methods of cataloging and document repair used by Mrs. Mary Bryan and her efficient staff. The Mississippi Department hopes to rescue many valuable manuscripts from deterioration by the use of modern repair methods.

Charlotte Capers of the Department of Archives and History, flew into what the BALTIMORE SUN called "the coldest night in a century" when she went to Washington, D. C., on January 25 to make a final inspection of the museum exhibits being constructed for the Old Capitol Museum. She was snowed in for three days and was the inadvertent guest of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Tinsley, Bethesda, Maryland, when travel became impossible and no hotel rooms were available. Tinsley is president of Creative Arts Studio, builders of Mississippi's exhibits, and he and his wife are gracious exponents of true northern hospitality.

A gruelling two-day check of all artifacts, art work, captions, and texts by Miss Capers revealed a few errors, which were corrected before final acceptance. On the whole, however, Miss Capers was delighted with the exhibits, and says there is nothing in Washington, New York, or Chicago to equal them. The exhibits were installed in February for the opening of the Museum in March.

Mrs. Carl Black, Research Assistant, and Mrs. Grimes have completed a checklist of the private manuscripts pertaining to the Civil War on file in

the Department of Archives and History. The list, which covers over 200 collections, will be submitted for pub-

### Special Libraries

lication in the **Journal of Mississippi History**, in order to secure a wide circulation of the valuable information.

Mrs. Louise K. Rayner, who was formerly at the University of Mississippi Library, is now registrar at the Old Capitol Museum.

### Air Force Libraries Busy With Contests

The Keesler Air Force Base Library and the Base Library at Greenville are busy with contests. Each year the Air Force conducts a Short Story Contest, open to all military personnel on active duty.

At Base level the contest is conducted by the libraries which get out publicity concerning it, prepare bibliographies, set up displays, hand out copies of the rules, and select the judges. Frequently the librarians are asked for comments on the rough drafts of stories, asked to check spelling and punctuation, and, though not asked in so many words, offer encouragement to budding authors.

Keesler is again endeavoring to secure the services of Dr. John Husband, professor of Creative Writing at Tulane University, for a short course in story writing. Dr. Husband has conducted such a course in previous years and has met with enthusiastic response. These classes are sponsored jointly by the Education Office and the Library, and are conducted in the library.

## Keesler AFB Library To Conduct Survey

The Keesler Library has been designated by Headquarters, Air Training Command, as a pilot library to perform a Military-Community Library Survey being conducted by the Air Force, the Army, and the Navy in conjunction with the American Library Association.

To Keesler has been assigned a staff agency study, an organizational study, and a survey of reference services. The survey is to be completed by April. Already the library feels that much has been gained in knowledge of the needs of the staff sections and organizations. To endeavor to supply these requirements is the next step.

As in most libraries, trained staff members, time and money are all that are needed. What it hoped to accomplish is to supply as much as possible with what is available now and an anticipated 40 per cent cut in military library clerks by April 1.

National Library Week receives the whole-hearted support of the Department of Defense, and military installations are encouraged to give full observance to this important event. The Keesler Library is busy with preparations for special exhibits, story hours for Base Kindergarten children, an Open House, and publicity throughout the Base. Through contacts established during our Survey, the Library hopes to secure the cooperation of many organizations, as the Toastmasters Club, the Camera Club, the Amateur Radio Club, etc., in making the public aware of the library and library services available to them.

Not how many but how good books you have. — Seneca.

## Research Library Rebuilding Collection

Since the fire in the fall, members of the staff of the Research Center Library, Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, have been maintaining a furious pace in the rebuilding of the collection; between 250 and 300 publications are being replaced daily. Now located in a six-room dwelling, a back porch area has been recently enclosed to take care of additional stack area; the still larger front porch area is likely to be enclosed also to house still more book shelves. The new building has not, as yet, been started, but the Research Center Library staff is looking forward to a time in the not too distant future when the collections can be removed to a lovely new building.

Two recent additions to the staff are Eloise Guider, who joined shortly before the fire as library assistant, and Mrs. Ruth Gay, clerk-typist. Both are members of the Mississippi Library Association.

## Lauren Rogers Library Holds Art Exhibits

The Lauren Rogers Library, Laurel, sponsored its annual Junior Auxiliary Children's Art Contest Exhibit March 5-12, and a Karl and Mildred Wolfe exhibition, opening March 19, and essay contests.

Nell Davis reports droves of children are working on the D. A. R. contest theme, American Waterways, all wanting material on rivers in Mississippi other than the Mississippi. Each year the Lauren Rogers Library also offers a prize for the best paper prepared by a Laurel high school student who has done at least a large part of his research in their library. Two other prizes under the same rules are offered in the county schools.



# THROUGH THE SCHOOLS

## VARDAMAN

Officers of the Vardaman High School (Calhoun County) SLAM are: Sarah Ann Evans, president; Ruby Easley, vice-president; Kathryn Allen, secretary; Martha Jenkins and Douglas Cook, program chairmen.

## PEARL HIGH LIBRARY

Effie Pell, librarian, Pearl High School, reports many additions have been made to the book shelves, including two sets of encyclopedias, two copies of *The American Heritage Civil War* in color, two hundred and forty fiction books, and fifteen dictionaries. The Pearl High Library Club members presented a play, "The Bookworm," in an assembly program on March 15.

## ASHLAND HIGH LIBRARY NEWS

Mrs. J. C. Ray, full-time librarian, Ashland High School, reports a successful year thus far and the assistance of an active library club which meets once each month. An incentive to work is the modern, well-equipped and centrally located library. An eye toward success has been proven by the fact that Leearle James, a member of the Ashland High Club, is now serving as President of Region VII Student Library Assistants of Mississippi.

## HICKORY FLAT EXPANDS

An addition to the Hickory Flat School Library, which will provide more space and modern library facilities, should be complete early in 1961. Mrs. Rose Harrison, librarian, has, as her assistants, students who also qualify as members of the Beta Club. The club has as its goal for the year the addition of science and science fiction books to the collection.

## ROLLING FORK HIGH

### BECOMES LIBRARY CONSCIOUS

The Rolling Fork High School Library has been moved into a larger,

more centrally located room with better lighting facilities. All out-dated and unsuitable books have been dis-

## School Libraries

carded. The greatest emphasis has been on books for the fields of English and science. For the first time, they have ventured into the field of "paperbacks" to bring their science shelves up-to-date, which is proving very satisfactory. The P.T.A. has allotted one hundred dollars to start a collection of records pertaining to work in the English department.

## JUNIOR COLLEGE LIBRARIAN SPEAKS AT COLLINS

In a special meeting of the Collins High School Library, February 2, Mattie Mae Viverette, librarian, Jones County Junior College, spoke on "Youth, Books and Libraries." The Collins club is composed of 59 members, a majority of which are very active in their club work. Alene Valentine is the club sponsor.

Dorothy Quick, president, Collins High School Library Club, will begin her studies in the school of library science at MSCW in September.

## LIBRARY MEET AT GLADE

Glade High School played host on January 19 to Mrs. Ada McCaa Sumrall, library supervisor of the State Department of Education, who discussed the organization and criteria of school libraries. Mrs. Sumrall outlined concrete ways and means of improving school libraries and increasing their role in the life and education of children. Mrs. W. W. Touchstone, librarian, Glade High School, was hostess to Jones County librarians, English teachers, and administrators.

## Regional Workshops For School Librarians Enthusiastically Received

Northeast Region No. VIII under the leadership of Mrs. Frances Lord, Librarian at Corinth Junior High School, held the initial of a series of workshops set up all over the state and designed to accomplish two major purposes: 1. Examining new books and other materials, sharing of ideas, discussing common problems. 2. Understanding the concept of a good school library program as presented in the **Standards for School Library Programs** and finding workable ways to move toward these goals.

The meeting was held in the Corinth High School, where Mrs. Murray is the librarian. Mr. Prince, Superintendent of Corinth Public Schools, gave in a welcome his view of a school library program.

The morning session was given to

visiting the two school libraries, to examining hundreds of new books on display, to studying new professional materials and to discussing practical approaches to solving problems. Uses made of "Books on Exhibit" and of "The Traveling Science Library" were presented. Opportunities offered for securing books under the National Defense Education Act were pointed out. Free materials were shown and discussed.

The afternoon session was devoted entirely to the **Standards for School Library Programs**. A look was taken at how the standards came into being, for whom they are designed, and of most importance at a picture of what a good school library program consists. Only a brief mention was made

(Continued on Page 41)

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(Continued From Page 40)  
of numerical standards.

Each school was challenged to make a listing of its present status. Then to list opposite this the items which make a good school library program. Librarians were encouraged to make an honest study of ways to bridge the gap between present status and goals with plans, immediate and long range, to be carried out by all citizens.

Under the direction of Miss Jeannette Catledge a similar workshop was held at Winona on February 11th for Region III where every county was represented. Mr. Smith, Superintendent of Winona Public Schools, visited with the librarians during a coffee hour as the "travelers" arrived and then gave remarks on what he as an administrator expected of a school librarian.

In Fayette, on February 17th, at Jefferson High School, Mrs. Virginia Westbrook, assisted by Mr. C. V. Sullivan, Principal, and Mr. G. A. McLaurin, County Superintendent, served as hosts. Amite was the only county not represented and a messenger was appointed to carry "the word" to that county.

When Miss Katie Beemon, Chairman, held a Standards meeting on February 4th with librarians in Region IX at Philadelphia, plans were made for a workshop at a later date. On this day Mr. G. F. Pettay, Principal, gave a most inspirational talk on "An Administrator Looks at the New Standards."

A workshop will be held at Columbus on March 3rd. Plans are underway for Greenville and other areas.

In the implementation set up for our nation there is a state chairman, appointed by the School Library Association president. Mrs. Frances Hardy, Meridian Junior College, serves in this capacity. She in turn has appointed a chairman in each of the fourteen regions in the state. Region I—Miss Mabel Gaston, Greenville; Region II—Mrs. Doye C. Dickey, Laurel;

Region III—Miss Jeannette Catledge, Winona; Region IV—Miss Edna Westbrook, Newton; Region V—Mrs. Janice Fairbanks, Provine H. S., Jackson; Region VII—Mrs. Esco Smith, Gulfport; Region VIII—Mrs. Frances Lord, Corinth; Region IX—Miss Kate Beemon, Philadelphia; Region X—Mrs. Joe Packwood, Tylertown; Region XI—Miss Susie Bull, Columbus; Region XIII—Mrs. Martha Skelton, Vicksburg; Region XIV—Mrs. Virginia Westbrook, Fayette.

The Standards are goals for good school library service. As excellent leadership over our state interpret and implement these practical plans through workshops and discussion groups, the program will move forward.

Neither ridicule nor condemn but try to understand. — Spinoza.

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## Officers and Council of SLAM Meet

The officers and advisory council of SLAM met Saturday, February 25, at 9:30 in the Assembly Room, second floor State Office Building, to plan the annual meeting of the organization.

The date is set for November 11, 1961, and the place Millsaps College. A theme for the year was chosen: **Books — the Key to Our American Heritage.**

Plans were made for special exhib-

its, for the poster contest, and the Louisiana special awards. Responsibilities were delegated for handling registration, for decorations, for special program items.

A skeleton plan was made for the general sessions and the discussion groups were named and leaders identified.

A bigger and better conference is anticipated for the annual meeting of SLAM.

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